

# **Press release: Weather update: no restrictions planned for A14 Orwell Bridge**

Highways England is advising road users in the east of England that there are no current plans to close the Orwell Bridge in Suffolk tomorrow (Friday 3 February).

High winds have been forecast across the region for much of the day, peaking in the afternoon. However, based on the latest information from forecasters, Highways England considers it unlikely that conditions at the bridge will require a closure.

Drivers are asked to pay close attention to the weather forecast in case circumstances change. Safety is Highways England's top priority, and any decision about whether to close the bridge will be based on the safety of road users, taking into account the speed and prevailing direction of the wind.

Whilst the bridge is open, Highways England will continue to monitor wind speeds closely. If there is an increase in the forecast high winds, which would make the crossing unsafe for drivers, the Orwell Bridge, which carries the A14 over the River Orwell near Ipswich, could be closed at some point on Friday 3 February.

If the Orwell Bridge is closed, the planned diversion route is via the A1156, A1189 and A1214 through Ipswich.

Drivers planning to travel on Friday 3 February are encouraged to plan their journey in advance and check the latest weather and traffic conditions along the route. You can get the latest forecast from BBC weather, the Met Office, and BBC Radio Suffolk.

Drivers should be aware of sudden gusts of wind, and give high-sided vehicles, caravans, motorbikes and bicycles plenty of space.

Highways England provides live traffic information [via its website](#), local and national radio travel bulletins, electronic road signs and mobile platforms. Local weather information is also available on Twitter at @HighwaysEAST. The latest weather forecast can be seen on the [Met Office website](#).

## **General enquiries**

Members of the public should contact the Highways England customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

## **Media enquiries**

Journalists should contact the Highways England press office on 0844 693 1448 and use the menu to speak to the most appropriate press officer.